

REMARKS

The undersigned downloaded a copy of the Office Action dated March 24, 2005. Further correspondence regarding this case should be sent to the undersigned attorney in accordance with the change of power of attorney.

The specification has been reviewed, and reference numerals corrected and omitted when not referenced in the drawings. Reference numeral 120 has been added to more clearly indicate the stop discussed in the specification.

With respect to the drawings, the numerals 100, 110, 35, 34 and 53 have been added to Figure 1. Reference number 15 has been changed to 14, and the lead lines for reference numerals 24 and 51 have been corrected. In Figure 2, the reference numerals 50 and 26 have been deleted. The lead line for reference numeral 59 has been corrected. In Figure 3, the reference numerals 31, 51, 100 and 110 have been deleted. Reference numerals 22, 23, 50 and 14 have been added. In Figure 4, reference numeral 35 has been added, and lead line changed for reference numeral 100. In Figure 5, reference numerals 51, 28 and 50 have been added. In Figures 5 and 6, the lead line for numeral 21 has been corrected. In Figure 6, reference numerals 21, 50, 28, 51 and 35 have been added. In Figure 7, reference numeral 51 has been corrected to 31. Reference numerals 70 and 72 have been deleted. Reference numerals 11, 57, 53 and 100 have been added. In the lower portion of that figure, reference numerals 32, 22, 72, 53, 70, 100 and 110 have been deleted, and reference numeral 57 has been added. Reference numeral 51 has been corrected to 31.

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Finally, in Figure 8, reference numerals 50 and 70 have been deleted. The lead line for reference numeral 110 has been changed. Reference numerals 33, 31, 58, 28, 24 and 11 have been added. In the lower portion of that figure, reference numerals 33, 31, 24, 11 and 90 have been added.

The claims have also been reviewed and amended to correct the objection noted by the Examiner, and to more clearly indicate how many fasteners are claimed. Consistent with the specification, the terminology for the fasteners passing through apertures in the support member and the shell are described in the claims as connectors to clear up any ambiguity regarding the number of fasteners claimed.

Method Claims 14 and 15 have been cancelled.


Newly added Claim 16 is specifically directed to a orthotic device for rehabilitation of a user's wrist. The claim requires a base unit having an elongated support member conforming substantially to a forearm of the user. The hinge system in Claim 16 does not recite the shell internal pad included in Claim 1.

Newly added Claim 23 recites an orthotic device with a base unit, a metacarpal unit, and a hinge system, although Claim 16 recites that a support member includes the plurality of apertures each capable of receiving a connector therein. Also, the hinge system recited in Claim 23 recites that the metacarpal unit swivels in a lateral fashion in relation to the hinge system.

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In view of the above, early allowance of the application is requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I certify that this document is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 [37 CFR 1.8(a)] on August 24, 2005.


Tricia Skarpa

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